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YOUR MISSION

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BY

ELLEN M. H. GATES

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY
F. S. CHURCH, W. ST. JOHN HARPER
and J. W. ALEXANDER

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If you cannot on the ocean,
  Sail among the swiftest fleet,
Rocking on the highest billows,
  Laughing at the storms you meet;
You can stand among the sailors,
  Anchored yet within the bay,
You can lend a hand to help them,
  As they launch their boats away.

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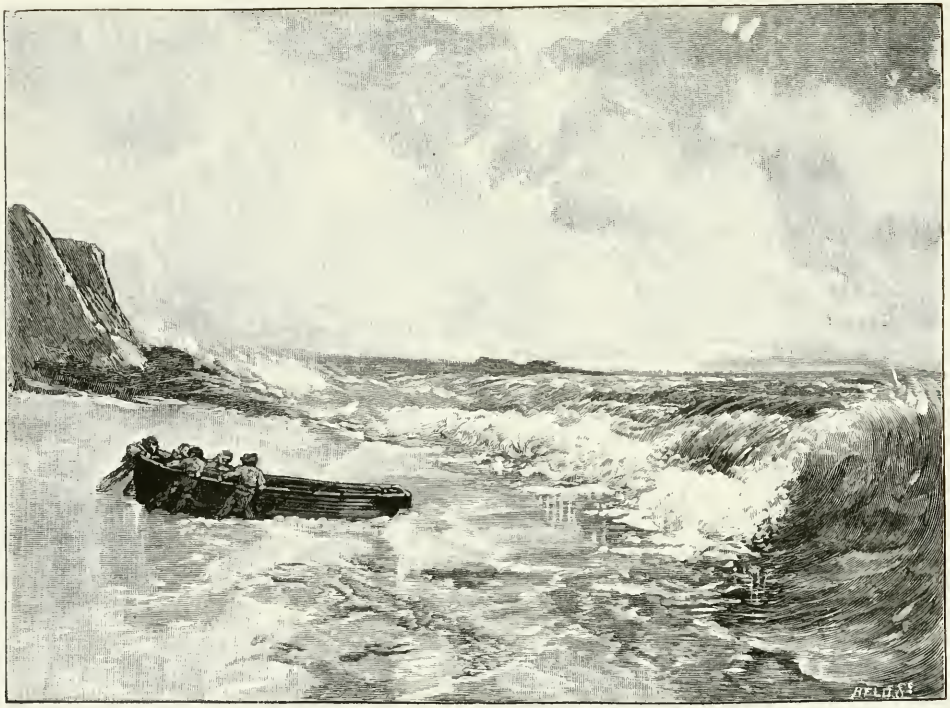
HELDER

If you are too weak to journey,
  Up the mountain, steep and high,
You can stand within the valley,
  As the multitudes go by;
You can chant in happy measure,
  As they slowly pass along,
Though they may forget the singer,
  They will not forget the song.

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If you cannot in the harvest,
  Garner up the richest sheaves,
Many a grain, both ripe and golden,
  Will the careless reapers leave ;
Go and glean among the briars,
  Growing rank against the wall,
For it may be, that their shadow,
  Hides the heaviest wheat of all.

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If you have not gold and silver,
  Ever ready at command;
If you cannot toward the needy,
  Reach an ever open hand;
You can visit the afflicted,
  O'er the erring you can weep,
You can be a true disciple,
  Sitting at the Savior's feet.

EDITH COOPER SC.
CHURCH

If you cannot in the conflict,
  Prove yourself a soldier true;
If where fire and smoke are thickest,
  There 's no work for you to do;
When the battle-field is silent,
  You can go with careful tread,
You can bear away the wounded;
  You can cover up the dead.

Do not then stand idly waiting
  For some greater work to do;
Fortune is a lazy goddess,
  She will never come to you;
Go and toil in any vineyard,
  Do not fear to do or dare,
If you want a field of labor,
  You can find it anywhere.

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